

Ryan White Title I Inland Empire HIV Planning Council

Minutes of Meeting Thursday, March 21st, 2002

1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Inland AIDS Project
3756 Elizabeth Street
Riverside, CA. 92506
(909) 683-4022

Call to Order and Introductions

Steve McGrew, co-chair, called the meeting to order at 1:26 p.m. Introductions were made. Persons in attendance were:

Name:

Joe Acosta	Faith Davis-Bolton	A. Lloyd Jones
John Brown	Steve English	Steven McGrew
Danny Colon	Gregory French	Jerry Nevarez
Erin Comstock	Carolyn Harris	Benita Ramsey
Ed Cueto	Victoria Jauregui Burns	

Absences:

Sandra Bibb	Fred Flotho, Jr.	Rick Rector
Jeff Byers	David Fyffe	Joshua Sparks
Leann Chamlee	Cherry Houston, Ph.D	Evelyn Valentino
Darlene DeBayona	Tom Prendergast, MD, MPH	Rebecca Zeidler
Gary Feldman, MD	Jim Taylor	Edwin Zelaya

Other Attendees:

Eydie Bernal	Robin Derdowski	Derrick Noble
Leesa Cook	Gemma Gonzales	Scott Rigsby
Janice De Grande	Paula McGrew	Alex Taylor
		Jim Woodward

Public Comments

- Steve McGrew told the Planning Council that his goal as co-chair is to try and bring the Planning Council up to speed on its procedures. During his discussions with Lennie Green, Lennie told Steve that almost every one of the Planning Council's actions in the past two years could have been grieved for one reason or another. Steve said he feels the discussion that took place at the February Planning Council meeting regarding members voting rights was accurate. He also said that he was informed later that he could have asked a second question of the Planning Council and that was, "If you've been doing it this way, can you continue?" He did not know to ask that question and was equipped only with the information that people who are not members could not vote. He "took" that decision on his own. He said it turned out that

some of the people who were on the list actually should not have been on that list as their terms went on until March or June. He told the Planning Council that he takes full responsibility for those actions.

- Steve told the Planning Council that his next action item, with the Planning Council's blessing, would be to try to see that the Planning Council membership reflects the epidemic. When we received the new Epidemiological Profile, it was easy to see that our EMA is comprised of 89% male and 10% female, 73.6% MSM and only 6.4% heterosexual. Based on this information, Steve pointed out that the Planning Council really does not reflect the epidemic currently. Steve said he would like to see fewer providers and fewer government employees as members and an increase in consumer members. He told the committee he is aware this will take some time but if they are in favor of this, he will strive to make it happen.
- Steve told the Planning Council of another of his goals. He would like to have staff that reports to the Planning Council so that when direction is given staff does not need to get clearance from the Grantee before they can take action. Steve said he would work to see that that happens so long as the Planning Council desires that.
- Joe Acosta added that, although the following was discussed at the Membership meeting, he wanted to reiterate it. He told the Planning Council that when he first heard about what occurred at the February PC meeting, he was very upset. He avoided confrontation with his colleague, Steve McGrew, until he found out the specific details of what occurred. Based on these details, Joe realized that Steve's assessment was a correct assessment. Joe offered Steve McGrew an apology at the Membership meeting for speaking out of turn. Joe offered a very sincere apology to Steve again, in front of the Planning Council as a whole.

Agenda Additions, Revisions, and Corrections

- Addition of a staff report after the approval of minutes.
- Presentation of Appreciation for Joshua Olagunju before the break.
- Addition of discussion of February Planning and Evaluation minutes to that Committee's report.

The motion to accept the amended agenda was made by Steve McGrew. Joe Acosta seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Motion # 02-14 was approved unanimously.

For:	14
Against:	0
Abstentions:	0

Members present with no PC Form 700 on file: 0

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of February 28th, 2002 were reviewed. Jerry Nevarez noted that on page 9 of the minutes, under San Bernardino Committee, the motion should read, ". . . Dental Services, \$ 10,000 **to Mental Health** and if additional residuals should occur, that additional be added to Mental Health." This will clarify that the \$ 10,000 and any additional, should that occur, will go to the Mental Health category.

Eydie Bernal noted that on page 5, Assemblyman John Longville's name was misspelled.

Steve McGrew motioned to approve the minutes of February 28th, 2002 with the corrections noted. Joe Acosta seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Motion # 02-15 was approved unanimously.

For: 14

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

Members present with no PC Form 700 on file: 0

Staff Report

Eydie Bernal informed the Planning Council that staff has been working diligently on the website. She told them the Planning Council site is accessible from the San Bernardino Public Health website. The Planning Council agendas and minutes are on the site, as are the HRSA teleconferences, AIDS Updates (Epidemiological Profiles), Service Providers and other pertinent information. Alice Morton has been working on the publicizing of the Planning Council agendas. Alice has developed a boiler plate announcement (long and short version) for advertisement in newspapers, San Bernardino County Sun, Press Enterprise and the Desert Sun. Eydie asked if any Planning Council members would like to volunteer to review and approve the announcement format and provide input as to what information goes on this project. Gregory French volunteered to work with staff on the website.

Planning and Evaluation Committee Report

Victoria Jauregui Burns updated the Planning Council on the topics discussed at the last Planning and Evaluation meeting.

Planning and Evaluation Meeting Day and Time

Victoria said there was discussion regarding the time and day of the Planning and Evaluation Committee meetings and Eydie Bernal, was asked to take a poll. Eydie reported there were a few people that requested Monday in the afternoon and there were a few people who requested Tuesday in the morning. Victoria reminded any Planning and Evaluation members who have not yet responded to the poll, to please do so. John Brown felt that the issue was not necessarily having a meeting in the morning or the afternoon, but rather having a meeting that did not begin before 10:00 a.m. or end after 3:00 p.m. He also felt that this is not just an issue to be aware of for the Planning and Evaluation committee but it should be a Planning Council-wide rule in consideration of those who must commute in order to attend a meeting.

Needs Assessment

Victoria told the Planning Council there were over 400 initial surveys completed. Paula McGrew and Noelle Hartwick are evaluating the surveys to see how many special populations we were able to capture on the first round. The special populations included, for example, geographical location, language barriers, women of color, gay men of color and pediatrics. If needed, Survey Administrators will be sent out again to capture those special populations. Ed Cueto, of the Desert AIDS Project, said they have another survey date currently scheduled. When the surveys are completed, focus groups and key informant interviews will begin.

Comprehensive HIV Services Plan

Paula is working on the Comprehensive HIV Services Plan. Technical Assistance has been obtained by HRSA to review our plan. One of the main recommendations was in regard to our goals and objectives. As a result, the Planning and Evaluation Committee will be taking on the goals and objectives over the next two to three months. It looks as if there may be additional meetings held to accomplish this. Victoria said it is her understanding that the current goals and objectives are not clear enough, there are not enough short terms goals, not enough long term goals and we need input, as this plan is going to help with how we provide services over the next three years.

Eligibility Criteria

Victoria directed the Planning Council to the Eligibility Criteria attachment. She said there seems to be confusion regarding what was approved prior to this presentation. We had wanted to implement the criteria to assist agencies in providing services. The idea was that the people most in need would be provided with the services they need and we can stretch our limited resources for HIV services. The committee voted on the amended eligibility criteria and put forward a motion for the Planning Council as a whole to approve these financial requirements and eligibility guidelines for the Grantee to implement in the provider contracts. Victoria reminded the Planning Council that as this decision is being brought to the Planning Council by this committee, a second is not needed. Carolyn Harris clarified that the Planning Council was to vote on the changes in red.

Motion # 02-16 was approved unanimously.

For: 14

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

Members present with no PC Form 700 on file: 0

Ed Cueto asked when the eligibility criteria would be implemented. Jim Woodward responded to his question, saying that the procedures outlined in the grant contract would be followed. There will be a 60 day review period for providers to comment. Then the criteria will be entered into the contract and implementation will take place 30 days after that. He said we are looking at approximately 90 days for implementation once the process begins.

Evaluation of the Administrative Mechanism

There was a subcommittee for the EAM that met on Monday, March 18th. Victoria will be providing to that committee a draft survey that looks at the questions we wanted to ask regarding the RFP process, contracting process, priority setting and Planning Council staff. Victoria reminded everyone in attendance that this is the Planning Council's opportunity to provide input to the Grantee on how they handle the Administrative Mechanism. Victoria pointed out that only about 13 people returned last year's survey regarding the EAM. She encouraged all Planning Council members to participate this year. Victoria said that providers will also be included in the survey this year. The next meeting of the Evaluation of the Administrative Mechanism will be held on April 1st, 2002 at 3:00 p.m. in San Bernardino.

Steve McGrew commented that the Planning Council does not have many duties as a whole but one of the most important duties is to fill out the survey regarding the Evaluation of the Administrative Mechanism. He encouraged all members to participate.

Provider Network

Victoria told the Planning Council that Provider Network met Tuesday, March 19th. She said this committee provided Jim Woodward with input regarding the RFP. He, in turn, provided the committee with some of the changes he wanted to implement based on continuous feedback. Victoria said that those people who were not present at the Provider Network meeting but have input regarding the RFP process are encouraged to make comments so the next RFP process will be more successful for both the Grantee and the providers. Jim Woodward said he would be making a presentation at the Planning and Evaluation Committee meeting in April. He said that input from the providers will be introduced as well. A number of the things we want to do require the Planning Council's assistance. Jim told the Planning Council that he will be asking them to take a very active role in improving this process. The Planning and Evaluation Committee will have a lot to do with setting the agenda for that.

Discussion of the February, 12th, 2002 Planning and Evaluation Minutes

Gregory French was very concerned that he received the minutes from the February 12th, 2002 Planning and Evaluation meeting and his words were not included. He stated, "Last Planning Council meeting, I got the minutes from that meeting, the P&E committee, and my words was not included in those minutes and I want my words to start being included in minutes when I do speak. I don't speak a lot but when I do speak I like to be heard. I like to read my words in the minutes when I get that report and that did not happen. So I want a correction to go out with my words included. My words was not the only one that was taken out. It was other people's words that was taken out as well so I just want those words included in the minutes and sent out."

Steve McGrew asked if he was referring to the corrected minutes or the first draft?

Gregory replied, "The first draft was incorrect. My words were not in that."

Steve McGrew asked if he could attend the next meeting to make those corrections.

Gregory stated, "I might not be able to make that."

Steve told Gregory that he could send those corrections in writing.

Gregory stated, "I'll send an email."

Steve said that would be great.

Gregory said, "What about the words being taken out? That's an issue for me. If I'm speaking on a subject, and other people spoke on this issue as well, regarding Joshua and they were positive words regarding his job performance, and those words were taken out".

Steve indicated that he was unsure as to if this was a staff oversight or whether it went to the chairs of the Planning and Evaluation committee and they simply missed it. Steve hoped that at the next Planning and Evaluation meeting this could be reviewed and resolved. Steve went on to say that he believes every members words should be included in the minutes whenever it is stated that is desired.

Eydie Bernal said that the omission of words in those minutes was unintentional. Speaking for staff, she said that as they have a lot to transcribe, they try to get the general feeling and convey

that in the minutes. She reiterated that it wasn't intentional and the minutes are a general summary of what went on. She added that if we included everything that was said, the minutes would be a very, very long document and it would be very difficult for the chairs to review the draft version of the minutes and get them back to staff.

Gregory stated, "Okay, but still it was a whole discussion of somebody's performance. I spoke, Faith spoke, Cherry spoke, Benita spoke. I can see if one person is taking notes that's kindalike insensitive. But when you take a whole group of people out, the same color, that's racist. I'm sorry that's just plain out racist. One person, insensitive. And we're talking about someone's job performance. That's uncalled for."

Steve McGrew said staff would be sure his comments were included in the minutes and asked that we try not to imply that anyone is being racist.

Gregory interjected, "No, lets be real. Look at the situation. Let's take the facts. There was a discussion about a person's performance, who happened to be of African descent. Okay, people spoke about him was African American. That whole, that whole agenda was just taken out. I'm not tryin' make up stuff that didn't happen. And for this council to say oh go back to that Planning Council committee who did this, that's not even stepping up to the plate. That was swingin' n'miss. I hope you're getting all o'my words, please. That was a swing and a miss. And when it comes to minority issues it always a swing and a miss. And this have to stop."

John Brown suggested that all Planning Council members start a practice that if one wants a specific something they said put in the minutes, to say, "I want this put into the minutes". He feels then, that no matter what is said, if a Planning Council member has asked for that to be put in the minutes it should be put in the minutes. He also feels that, in turn, if a Planning Council member does not wish to have something they said to be recorded, then they should be able to say, "I don't want this in the minutes" and it should not go in the minutes. In addition to that, John also feels that Planning Council members ought to be able to, after the fact, correct minutes and say, "I want this exact statement inserted into the minutes" and it should be done.

Gregory stated, "I'm gunna be very respectful to let you say your words but it still, you are not addressing the group. There was a group of people you are saying one person."

John Brown asked to complete his statement.

Gregory responded, "That's what I'm trying to do, I'm trying . . ."

John Brown said that what he was saying is that he feels that there are people who might not want their exact words written in the minutes and he thinks it should be an individual choice of each Planning Council member to ask that their words be put into the minutes. He would not want to adopt a policy where the Planning Council would be looking at minutes that had word for word conversations in them.

Gregory stated, "A whole discussion?"

Steve said that it should be a policy that all discussions are public so why this happened he isn't sure. Steve asked the Planning Council, "Do any other members whose words were not put in feel that this action is racist?"

There was silence, then Gregory said, "Well maybe they are employee's so I don't think they would

come out and say that. As a volunteer I would be happy to say that.”

Faith Davis-Bolton said she feels the situation appears very suspect. But, she doesn’t think there is any individual or person, necessarily, who would do something like that personally. She does, however, think that the situation appears to be racist.”

Steve McGrew commented that in working with the staff as he has, he doesn’t see any of them as racist. He hopes that is not the case. He assumed it is not and said he believes this was an oversight.

Eydie Bernal said that staff has been instructed that it is inappropriate to discuss an employee’s performance in the minutes, and that is why that particular discussion was left out. She said it was not intentional as it is being stated here. It was merely protecting the confidentiality of the employee.

Gregory responded, “No.”

Alex Taylor said it is inappropriate to discuss an employee’s performance in a public forum. He said there are three things that are absolutely confidential in the Department of Public Health. One is employee’s performance or access to an employee’s performance record. Two is medical records and three is anything that is subject to litigation. He reiterated that it really is inappropriate to have things like this discussed with any group.

Steve asked, “But this was a discussion about the process. Couldn’t it include, it was about process too, wasn’t it Gregory?”

Gregory responded, “It’s not the process, it’s the words that this person resigned when the question was why did this person resign? Why did Erika all of a sudden to resign? You said Joshua was re-assigned. That was the issue. Erika resigned because of a certain reason. That never did come out. I’d be glad to bring it to the table but I’m trying not to bring that to the table, I’m trying to just concentrate on one issue. The fact that a whole discussion on one man was taken out. You put that he resigned in the minutes. That he was re-assigned. That sounds like a job performance. So if I’m looking at the minutes and why did this man resign? Why did we move him? It shouldn’t been in the minutes then. We can’t say nothin’ ‘bout performance.”

Steve English said it seems to him, and it felt this way at the time of the meeting, that the entire discussion should not have taken place in that forum. He wanted to know why the co-chair . . .

Gregory interrupted, “Because it’s a violation of my constitution”

Steve English finished his thought saying that, “We have never discussed employment of County people. It’s not our purpose. It never has been and it shouldn’t be.”

Gregory said, “No but you’re telling me if I bring something to the table if staff or council feel that it’s not appropriate, you can just wipe me away, just wipe my word away.”

Steve English, “I’m saying . . .”

Gregory, “Just like the last time votes was taken away.”

Steve English, “I’m not saying anything . . .”

Gregory, "This is not Florida. This is not Florida. I'm sorry."

Steve English said, "I'm not saying anything about . . ."

Gregory stated, "You cannot just take a discussion, a whole discussion away about one person."

Steve McGrew interjected, "Just a minute, Gregory, there are other people who want to speak. Jerry."

Jerry Nevarez said he agrees with Steve English, the discussion should not have taken place about someone's job performance. As a supervisor of the San Bernardino County Clinic, Jerry pointed out that it is against County policy for this to be discussed, particularly in the forum we have been referring to.

Jerry acknowledged that everyone has a right under the first amendment to speak their mind. But, he said Steve is exactly right, someone should have called process because that was not the correct forum to discuss this kind of issue.

Victoria Jauregui Burns said that what we can do as a Planning Council, is go into closed session and have those discussions without the public allowed to hear them. There were many process issues that were addressed and many people were notified of a re-assignment without any kind of real discussion with the Planning Council as a whole. Those were things that leadership was told but there was no clear definition of who leadership was. In terms of the minutes, she feels staff was challenged in terms of how to word things that would be appropriate for something that is being published and going to HRSA. That, she said, was part of the problem. Victoria views this as a learning process. She said that when the Planning Council goes through times like this, when there are conflicts amongst ourselves, we want to be able to have that reflected accurately in the minutes without having it be viewed as something that is insensitive or could cause problems. She said the minutes are really a paraphrase or an overview of what happened. She said it may have been more appropriate to say several members expressed concern about the process and read you their points. She added that maybe a paragraph or two to this effect should have been included in those minutes. She also acknowledged that, as the chairs of Planning and Evaluation, it fell onto her and Fred to have perhaps said this is not an appropriate discussion and it needs to stop.

Victoria finished by saying that, again, she views this as a learning process and that she feels comments, for the most part, should not be verbatim but they should be summarized. For example, she feels that during today's meeting, Gregory French's comments regarding this whole process should be summarized. She also feels John Brown is right too, that if somebody wants something put into the minutes, they should state such and it should be added.

John Brown said he doesn't feel there is any legal issue regarding the minutes reflecting a Planning Council member expressing regret or concern over someone leaving, acknowledging when someone has done a good job or indicating when one did not really like a person. This is that particular Planning Council member's opinion. He feels that opinion does not represent the Planning Council as a whole, only that particular member's opinion. John feels there is a legal issue if someone who is employed with the County is talking about people they supervise or people they evaluate. But as a Planning Council body, he can think of a lot of examples where there has been expression of regret over somebody leaving and where there has been expression of praise for employees and other individuals. His point is, if he is in a meeting and he says something and states he wants that statement in the minutes, it had better be in the minutes. He said he does not care who staff must go to in order for this to happen, but it had better happen as it

is only a representation of his particular opinion or feelings and not the Planning Council's as a whole.

Gregory replied, "Thank you. I want my words added to the minutes. That's all I ask."

Steve McGrew asked if there is a need to set up a group to discuss the legal applications, the staff and what the Planning Council wishes.

Jerry Nevarez said that he supports what John Brown said, in general, and he has no problem with an individuals personal opinion. His concern was that he was at that Planning and Evaluation meeting also, and the County was being asked to answer questions that were inappropriate. He said those answers cannot be discussed.

Steve McGrew reiterated, "My question was do you feel we need to get a committee together to discuss this incident so it doesn't happen again?"

John Brown responded with a motion. He motioned that if a Planning Council member asks for their comments to be recorded either in the Planning Council minutes or in committee minutes, either at the time or they ask for those words to be recorded in corrections to the minutes, that in fact they have the right to do that. Joe Acosta seconded that motion and the motion carried.

Motion # 02-17 was approved unanimously.

For: 14

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

Members present with no PC Form 700 on file: 0

Steve McGrew added that if things do go beyond the legal bounds of what can be done, he doesn't feel staff should be put into the position to do anything illegal.

Lloyd Jones commented that if it does go beyond the legal bounds, then the responsibility falls on the chair(s).

Presentation of Appreciation

Joshua Olagunju, former Planning Council Staff, was introduced to the Planning Council. Steve McGrew and Joe Acosta presented Joshua with a plaque that reads, "On behalf of persons living with HIV and the Inland Empire HIV Planning Council wishes to thank Joshua Olagunju, Ph.D for his compassion for those served, in valuable assistance in meeting conditions of awards and providing Planning Council and Grantee support in the Riverside / San Bernardino, CA. EMA, March 21, 2002." Steve McGrew wished to thank Joshua from the Planning Council side for the work that he has done and Alex Taylor thanked Joshua for his efforts on behalf of the Grantee side.

Joshua thanked the Planning Council and told them he was very honored. He also said that for over two years it has been a pleasure for him to have had the interaction and growth associated with his position as Planning Council Staff. He said he has learned a lot and made friends with so many of the members and other people in attendance. He said he has no regrets having worked for the Inland Empire HIV Planning Council.

Advocacy Reports

Steve McGrew reported on the Activate!U2, 2002 that was just held in Riverside. He wished to thank Victoria Jauregui Burns and the Riverside County Department of Public Health for providing the location and support. He also extended appreciation to Victoria's staff, who not only helped coordinate this, but who also participated in the Activate!U2, 2002. Steve commented the attendance was great and included the co-chairs of CHAC, Steve Simon of APLA, Tom Peterson from AIDS Service Organization, Nicole Curran from the Governor's office and Howard Jacobs from Councilman Jeffery Prang's office in West Hollywood. There were wonderful presentations given. He mentioned the three bills being pushed this year: the Koretz Bill, which will give Medi-Cal to HIV positive people so we can hopefully prevent them from getting AIDS early, full funding of the ADAP program and the Longville Bill, which is the education bill that will set aside four hours of HIV/AIDS education in middle school and four hours of HIV/AIDS education in high school, as opposed to no time currently at some schools or only an hour at others. Steve told the Planning Council he has a meeting with Assemblyman John Longville on Friday. If anyone is interested in attending, please let Steve know.

John Brown reported that he was also very pleased with the Activate!U2, 2002 meeting. He did say he is a little disappointed that we weren't able to find any additional dollars to send people from San Bernardino County to AIDS Awareness Day on April 8th. He said Desert AIDS Project has committed \$ 3,000 to send people and they are extending that amount to \$ 5,000 to include San Bernardino County people. He said he will speak with Inland AIDS Project and AIDS Healthcare Foundation and other groups to see if they could also add a little money to DAP's for AIDS Awareness Day. John said he is very excited about AIDS Awareness Day and told the Planning Council that there are two teams set up for Riverside and San Bernardino, which have several scheduled meetings with our representatives. He stressed the importance of having enough community representation from our EMA to be able to attend each of the meetings currently scheduled. If some of these meetings are not attended, the representatives may feel these are not issues our EMA feels are important enough to advocate for so it is very important we have as many people from our EMA in attendance. For this reason, John will make every effort to get more money for more people from our EMA to go to this event.

John Brown reminded the Planning Council of this year's AIDS Watch in June. He acknowledged it will also be a struggle to find money to send people from both counties to Washington D.C. for this event. John wished to commend Alex Taylor for his efforts because beginning in July, Alex has been able to secure over \$ 18,000 for travel for Planning Council for next year! He said we still have a financial challenge this year but he is confident that the next year will prove to be much better in terms of EMA representation to these important events. John told the Planning Council that he and Steve are open to any suggestions and encourage anyone with input regarding financial assistance for AIDS Awareness Day and AIDS Watch to please contact them.

John Brown added that local visits really are important but it says something to the representatives when we appear in their office in Sacramento or Washington D.C. We are telling them that we feel strongly enough about the issues we are advocating and the issues receive a lot more attention at that capital visit. John Brown reiterated that next year should be a really good year for us as an EMA thanks to the money that the Grantee has been able to secure from San Bernardino County. Hopefully we can get Riverside County to add more to that, but this year we have a challenge.

Steve McGrew wanted to thank Steve English as Chairman of the Board of Inland AIDS Project. He said he needed some media printing for Activate!U2, 2002 that cost quite a bit and IAP's print shop accommodated Steve with a great deal!

Jim Woodward wanted to give the Planning Council clarification regarding the \$ 18,000 we were able to set aside. He said it is Heath Realignment Funds, which are discretionary within Health. The issue we have higher up is that discretionary funds can not be spent on lobbying or by members of the community. He said things can change but currently there are strings attached with respect to how these funds are spent. He said that these funds will enable us to do things that are just short of lobbying. For instance, there is education and institutional support, getting Planning Council members to training sessions and HRSA sessions and that sort of thing.

John Brown said that the lobby efforts we are involved in, actually bring more dollars to San Bernardino County for health. In addition, John said that San Bernardino County spends money on lobbying for that exact reason and lobbyists would tell you that, in fact, the most effective lobbyist is someone living with the disease that advocates and votes in that district. He feels at some level, we should have those discussions and maybe the concern is that somehow we would turn around and lobby supervisors. As far as lobbying at the State and Federal level, John feels we can make a case and he would be willing to help to make that case – that this brings more health dollars to San Bernardino County and is a great investment for the County.

Fiscal/Programmatic Reports (Grantee Expenditure Reports)

Grantee Expenditure Report

Scott Rigsby informed the committee that we will spend all Title I funds with the exception of the CBC monies.

Steve McGrew commented that this is the first time the Planning Council has had such a complete report. He thanked Scott and the Grantee for such complete information. He said the Planning Council is finally getting what they asked for and it's wonderful!

Alex Taylor told the committee that, for the first time in the 8 years of being a Title 1 eligible EMA, the Planning Council will receive a year end accounting for all monies spent. Steve McGrew said the Planning Council is looking forward to it!

Jo-Ann Hoye, MS, of Drew University of Medicine and Science, Western Prevention Intervention Center, made a wonderful presentation regarding CBO Technical Assistance training. She informed the Planning Council of the courses she instructs on behalf of the Jackson State University African American Prevention Intervention Network. There are currently five courses in total available and two additional courses that are in the development stage. The five courses available at this time are:

- Basic Behavioral Science
- Advanced Behavioral Science
- Social Marketing
- Program Evaluation
- High Impact CBO's

Jo-Ann told the Planning Council these classes are free of charge and are open to anyone who would like to go. There is a limit on the classroom size, but additional classes can be provided if requested.

Jo-Ann said these classes are generally two days and materials are provided. Also, a certificate of

completion is given to all who attend.

A sign up sheet was passed around the Planning Council and interested people signed up. Benita Ramsey volunteered to provide a location for one of these courses and Alex Taylor volunteered to supply lunch and administrative support.

County Committee Reports

San Bernardino Committee

Steve McGrew reported that, due to the Revision of Allocation worksheet, the San Bernardino Committee had to reduce the allocations they made at the February Committee meeting by \$ 28,140. It had been previously decided that \$ 25,000 should go to Legal Services, \$ 35,000 should go to Home Health Care, \$ 8,000 should go to Direct Financial Assistance, \$ 118,678 to Dental Services and the balance (approximately \$ 10,000 from Grantee Administration plus any additional over \$ 10,000 resulting from this transaction) to go to the Mental Health category. The committee has voted that the reduction in allocation will be as follows, Dental will be reduced by \$ 14,140 and Legal Services will be reduced by \$ 14,000.

Jerry Nevarez made the motion that San Bernardino follow Riverside County Committee's lead and put our CBC funds into Capacity Building. Benita Ramsey seconded the motion.

Motion # 02-18 was approved unanimously.

For:	14
Against:	0
Abstentions:	0

Members present with no PC Form 700 on file: 0

That is the only action from the San Bernardino County Committee. Steve asked the Planning Council to vote regarding the acceptance of the San Bernardino County Committee's motion. As this motion came from a committee it does not need a second.

Motion # 02-19 was approved unanimously.

For:	14
Against:	0
Abstentions:	0

Members present with no PC Form 700 on file: 0

Riverside Committee

Joe Acosta commented that today's Riverside Committee meeting was a very spirited one! The aspect of having a separate EMA was discussed. Faith Davis-Bolton, A. Lloyd Jones and Gregory French were appointed to meet and talk about the pros and cons of this concept.

Joe Acosta reported that, regarding the additional 1% from the change in County split, previously the Riverside Committee had decided that 70% would be allocated to Food Services and 30% to Capacity Building. The Committee has decided to change that allocation and devote 100% of that additional 1% to Food Services.

In the matter of the Revision of Allocations, Riverside Committee has decided that \$ 263,611 should go to Primary Medical Care and \$ 27,393 to the CBC category.

Joe reported that the Riverside County Committee has decided to put their CBC funds into Capacity Building.

Steve asked the Planning Council to vote regarding the acceptance of the Riverside County Committee's motion. As this motion came from a committee, it does not need a second.

Motion # 02-20 was approved unanimously.

For: 14

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

Members present with no PC Form 700 on file: 0

Membership Committee Report

Joe Acosta reported that there are several applications for membership that have been sent out recently. There are no new members to present at this time.

Joe told the Planning Council that a subcommittee was appointed, consisting of Faith Davis-Bolton and Rick Rector to look into a way of determining accountability for attendance and find ways of encouraging people to attend more meetings. Ways to determine whether a person will be a member of the Planning Council are being explored. The By Laws are not very specific and it is the intention of this subcommittee to provide some recommendations for us to consider.

Executive Committee Report

Steve reported on the last Executive Committee meeting of March 14th. He said we are still awaiting Lennie Green's report. He also told the Planning Council that Eydie Bernal presented a few suggestions on behalf of staff. First, staff would like to develop a system where members and committee heads try to call before they arrive so that if they would like to speak with a particular staff member, that staff member will be available for them. Staff would also like to develop a better procedure and timeline for minutes and agendas. Eydie also requested that, if at all possible, phone calls the morning of the Planning Council meetings be kept to a bare minimum as there is so much to do to prepare for such big days.

AIDS Awareness Day and Activate!U2, 2002 were discussed.

Alex Taylor informed the committee that San Bernardino County will be putting \$ 20,600 net cost into the AIDS Program beginning 2002. The down side is the money must be used for San Bernardino residents only as it is county money, not Planning Council money.

Jerry Nevarez wanted to add that as Planning Council members, we should try to direct tasks, requests and questions through the committee chairs.

Steve said that Alex Taylor announced a couple of days ago that the rollover money for FY2000 to be expended in FY 2001, which we thought had been approved by HRSA's Grants Management, had not been approved.

Alex said that, yes there had been some miscommunication, but that it had been resolved.

AD HOC Committee Reports

Underserved Populations

Jim Taylor, the chair of this committee, is out of town. He will give a report at the April Planning Council meeting.

Consumer Advocacy/Education

Lloyd Jones reported that the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 26th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Moreno Valley. He encouraged members to attend.

Public Comments

Ed Cueto reminded the Planning Council that on April 14th, 2002 Desert AIDS Project's AIDS Walk takes place. Everyone is welcome to participate in this fun fundraiser! It begins at 11:30 am and meets at the corner of El Cielo and Arenas in Palm Springs.

Joe Acosta told the Planning Council that, in Rick Rector's absence, the Membership Training meeting had been postponed. The meeting was to be on Robert's Rules of Order. Joe encouraged everyone to pick up a copy of what was to be presented at the Membership Training for reference. He also said that a former Planning Council member is hospitalized. He said Brenda Colson is at Desert Regional Hospital. He wishes her the best.

Janice DeGrande wanted to apologize for having to leave earlier but she had to attend a meeting regarding Substance Abuse/Crime Prevention Act, which is the Prop 36 Planning Meeting for the fiscal year 2002/2003. One of things she would like the Planning Council to be aware of is that UCLA is currently doing research for Prop 36 and it is very possible that Riverside may become the focus county. It was announced that at the present time, Riverside County is the lead county in California. By lead Janice meant they have the highest success rate. The clients are being court ordered into treatment, they are showing up to their appointments, they are adhering to treatment, staying in treatment, not violating their probation. A small discussion took place regarding this subject. John Brown asked for some time at the next Planning Council meeting to further discuss Proposition 36.

Announcements

None.

Agenda Items for Next Meeting

John Brown asked for a discussion regarding this Proposition 36.

Next Meeting

The next Planning Council meeting will be scheduled for April 25th. The location and time are to be announced.

The meeting adjourned at 3:36 p.m.

Certified:

Gary Feldman, MD Date
Co-Chair

Steve McGrew Date
Co-Chair